

Abstract of the Invention

The present invention provides an audio recording/playback tool that is integrated with an information viewer that simplifies recording and playback of audio annotations. The invention also provides alternative techniques to retrieve, categorize and sort the audio annotations including the ability to associate audio annotations with either pages of a document or specific points inside a page. Further, the invention synchronizes audio playback and document navigation actions. The invention supports the storage of the audio annotations in a variety of formats including the annotations stored as discrete clips labeled with properties and stored in an external database that permits, among other things, exchanging of annotations between users.

03797.81833